

Comments

The Examiner has allowed claims 1-6 and has objected to claims 10, 11, 15 and 16. Claims 7-9 and 12-14 have been rejected. Those rejections are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. The Examiner has rejected claims 7-9 and 12-14 as being anticipated by U. S. Patent 2,780,294 to Loomis. The Examiner states that Loomis discloses an apparatus comprising a sleeve with a plurality of separable sleeve segments. The Examiner disregards the statements set forth in original claim 7 which are directed to limiting rotation of a cementing plug. Claim 7 has been amended and now is directed to a rotation limiting device. The rotation limiting device of amended claim 7 comprises a sleeve with an open upper end for receiving a cementing plug. The sleeve is comprised of a plurality of separable segments connected to one another and defines an outer surface to engage a casing and an inner surface adapted to receive a cementing plug to engage the cementing plug to limit rotation during drillout.

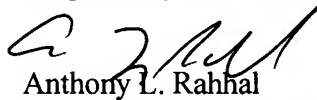
Loomis discloses a packer assembly 10 that includes a packer head 16 which forms the upper part of a tubing anchor, expansible packing member 18, a mandrel 20, and an oil well flow tubing 14 on which the mandrel is supported. [Column 2, lines 50-55]. In other words, the Loomis packer is supported on the tubing and is expanded by the mandrel. The Loomis packer is mounted to tubing 14 which extends therethrough and therefore does not have an opening adapted to receive a cementing plug. Packer 10 likewise does not define an inner surface for engaging a cementing plug to limit rotation of the cementing plug during drillout. Packer 10 described in Loomis therefore does not have limitations set forth in claim 7, and is not capable of functioning as described in the limitations of claim 7. Because Loomis does not include the limitations set forth in claim 7 or any of the claims that depend therefrom, Applicants

respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection and allow claims 7-9 and 12-14 along with previously allowed claims 1-6 and objected-to claims 10, 11, 15 and 16.

Conclusion

Accordingly and for the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request an indication of the allowance of claims 7-16, along with previously allowed claims 1-6.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony L. Rahhal
Registration No. 37,562
McAFEE & TAFT
Tenth Floor, Two Leadership Square
211 North Robinson
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102
Telephone: (405) 235-9621
FAX No.: (405) 235-0439
E-Mail: anthony.rahhal@mcafeetaft.com

Attorney for Applicants